

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

COMMEMORATION FOR THE TOWN OF OAKLAND, MARYLAND

• Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise to extend my sincerest congratulations to the town of Oakland, Maryland, as it enters its Sesquicentennial Year on October 10, 1999. Oakland, the county seat of Garrett County, enjoys a long and proud history in the State of Maryland.

Nestled in the Appalachian Mountains, Oakland is blessed with a natural beauty all four seasons, from snowy hills in winter to pastel flowers in spring to lush foliage in summer to gorgeous red, orange and gold trees in autumn. Even Oakland's early name, "Yough Glades," conjures up images of river and forest, natural beauty and abundant resources.

Oakland's rich history tells a story of a small farming community which grew with the opening of the first sawmill, expanded with the arrival of the railroad and continues to grow with old and new livelihoods alike, all the while treasuring those qualities which make it special—beauty, peacefulness and small town charm.

"A Brief History of Oakland, Maryland" by John Grant describes the people, forces and events which shaped the town of Oakland. Three Indian trails met in a meadow on the western edge of Oakland and formed an entrance into the Yough Glades where Native Americans hunted in the forest and fished in the Youghiogheny River for hundreds and hundreds of years. White settlers followed in the 1790s as the fertile soil in "Glades" country attracted more and more farmers.

Around 1830, the first combination gristmill and sawmill provided lumber for the homes and shops in the growing community. On October 10, 1849, the town which had been known by several different names including Yough Glades became "Oakland."

The arrival of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in 1851 triggered a growth spurt in Oakland. Business and tradesmen frequented the newly built Glades Hotel and more people moved to the town. In 1862, Oakland incorporated a regular town government and in 1872 Oakland was selected as the County Seat of the newly formed Garrett County. The B&O Railroad continued its influence on the growth of the town with its construction of the Oakland Hotel in 1875. The hotel attracted many summer visitors, several of whom later built summer homes in Oakland.

Tragedy has struck Oakland more than once, and each time the town bounced back. The Wilson Creek flooded in 1896 and periodically over the next 70 years before a series of dams built in the late 1960s controlled the flooding. A devastating fire destroyed the business section of Oakland in 1898. The town used brick fire walls when re-

building the downtown area, a far-sighted decision which paid off in 1994 when fire struck again. This time only two buildings were destroyed.

Natural resources and beauty have long contributed to Oakland's economy and continue to do so today. The lumber industry, which began in the late 1800s, still provides jobs in Oakland. Coal, another natural resource, is found in the mountains near Oakland and adds to the economy of the town. And Oakland's natural beauty, which drew visitors to the Oakland Hotel in 1875, continues to attract people from all over the country seeking not only its beautiful vistas, but also its myriad of recreational opportunities all year round. Today, visitors to Oakland can choose from a variety of activities including hiking, biking, fishing, boating and skiing.

The town of Oakland reminds us of all that is good in our country. Oakland is a place where fire and rescue services are still staffed by volunteers, where folks greet each other with a friendly wave and hello, where people work together to support their schools and community, and where patriotism runs deep. In so many ways, Oakland is truly a "Main Street Community," as the State of Maryland has so fittingly designated it.

Once again, I extend my congratulations to Oakland on their 150th anniversary and I invite all my colleagues to visit this Maryland treasure.●

TRIBUTE TO ALBERT ENGELKEN

• Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, for 28 years Albert Engelken was the man behind the scenes at the American Public Transit Association (APTA), a Washington-based member organization advancing and representing the interests of public transit systems and industry suppliers across North America.

He was the creative force for the vast majority of APTA's "People Programs," including the innovative International Bus Roadeo, where drivers and mechanics compete in events that test their skills at operating and maintaining public transit vehicles. His efforts at this endeavor also spawned the equally competitive International Rail Roadeo.

Albert Engelken was the originator of "Transit Appreciation Day," which later became "Try Transit Week," an annual fixture that encourages people to ride public transit, and salutes those who make the systems work. His creativity also extended to judging and selecting those systems that demonstrated excellence in transit advertising, a program now known as "AdWheel," an important event held at the Association's annual meeting.

Albert Engelken's education programs developed transit information modules for thousands of grade school teachers throughout the United States.

And, until his retirement in 1997, Albert Engelken produced the American Public Transit Association's Grant Awards Ceremony, an event that honors transit systems, individuals, and achievements in the public transit industry.

That ceremony continues today, and while lacking the unique skills Albert brought to directing the national and local arrangements that publicized the winners, the ceremony this year will honor him by electing him to the prestigious APTA Hall of Fame.

He was also the long-time editor of the Association's "Passenger Transport" weekly newspaper, and directed the industry's successful communications strategy in the important formative years of the federal transit program. Over his entire career with APTA, Albert's behind-the-scenes work—from speechwriting to the orchestration of presentations and the stage management of events—were critical to the success of APTA's member programs and the smooth functioning of APTA's many conferences.

Albert is known by his family, colleagues, and peers as a person who would always go the extra mile to help them out. No task was too small or too complicated to be turned away. He is a gentleman, trusted friend, and caring confidant. Yet he has never sought the spotlight not taken a bow over his work in public transit and APTA.

Those are just some of the reasons to honor Albert Engelken, Mr. President. At work and in the community he has touched thousands of lives, and made life safer and easier for hundreds of thousands of transit users and providers across our nation.

He is also a great family man. His wife Betsy, children Jane, Elizabeth and Richard and their spouses, and his five grandchildren can certainly attest to that.

Mr. President, I join them and his colleagues in congratulating Albert Engelken for a job well done, and in applauding his induction into the American Public Transit Hall of Fame.●

IN RECOGNITION OF JOAN FLATLEY

• Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize an outstanding woman in the State of New Jersey. Joan Flatley is being honored with the prestigious Spirit of Asbury Award for her activism and commitment to the Asbury Park community. Joan is recently retired as the Executive Director of the Asbury Park Chamber of Commerce, and her legacy in the community will be felt for years to come.

For over twelve years, Joan used her depth of knowledge and breadth of experience to contribute to the successful functioning of the Chamber. It is through her effort that the Chamber became a dynamic force in the Asbury

Park business community, and the State of New Jersey as a whole. Joan has been the main force behind the Chamber's development and growth. She has consistently been receptive to the community's need, and has responded to them under the auspices of the Chamber. The Chamber is now a respected source of information, both in Asbury Park and across the country, for business and community events. Without Joan's unyielding commitment, the Chamber's development would not have been as pronounced.

Joan's continued and unwavering service to the people of Asbury Park is indicative of her love of the community in which she lives. Whether she was giving out travel information, sending out newsletters or organizing a business meeting, Joan met every task with an unbridled enthusiasm and pleasantness that made the community around her a better place to live. Indeed it is a testament to her service that New Jerseyans from every walk of life from across the state have come to celebrate the end of her distinguished career.

Joan's dedication to community service has always been clear, and the people of Asbury Park have benefitted from her involvement. I can think of few individuals more worthy of this distinguished award than Joan Flatley, and I am pleased to extend my congratulations to her.●

IN HONOR OF EVA B. ISRAELSEN

● Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I was sad to learn of the death of Mrs. Eva Israelson of North Logan, Utah this past week. As one of Cache Valley's oldest living residents, she was a remarkable woman.

Eva May Butler Israelson was born October 5, 1894, in Butlerville, Utah. She attended Butlerville School as a young girl. A diligent student throughout her life, she was Valedictorian of the first graduating class of Jordan High School in 1915. I find it remarkable that just nine years ago, she and the other surviving class member, Thomas J. Parmley celebrated their 75th class reunion. In 1991 she was invited to be the featured speaker at Jordan High School's graduation.

She attended the Utah Agricultural College (now Utah State University) where she met her husband Victor Eugene Israelson. They were married in the Salt Lake LDS Temple in 1917. After college, she and her husband farmed, eventually establishing the North Logan Buttercup Dairy where she lived for 63 years. That dairy became a landmark in Cache Valley.

Eva was known throughout Cache Valley simply as "Grandma Israelson." She kept numerous journals and granted countless interviews to young people in the community who sought her out for her perspective and historical

knowledge. She remained active in her community and her church throughout her life. With support from her children, she attended nearly every funeral, wedding and baby blessing in the community. She was active in the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers and blessed the lives of her neighbors through her charitable example and her Christian life.

Grandma Israelson had a remarkable memory, often recalling details about not only her own family members and grandchildren but of the families of her neighbors and acquaintances. It was common for her to ask her neighbors about their children by name, even though she may not have seen them for years. The residents of North Logan will miss that, just as they miss waiving to her on her morning walks which she used to take back when she was a young woman of just 101.

She and her husband had eleven children, eight of which are living. Her husband Victor passed away in 1967. Her progeny includes 67 grandchildren, 271 great-grandchildren and 40 great-great grandchildren. Including the 97 spouses, she is survived by 483 family members.

Grandma Israelson would have been 105 years old today. So on her birthday, I want to pay tribute to her life and express my condolences to her family on her passing. She was a remarkable woman who led a remarkable life. Sophocles once said "One must wait until the evening to see how splendid the day has been." In her passing, I am sure that the community agrees that it was indeed splendid to spend the day with Eva Israelson.●

TRIBUTE TO JAMES ARTHUR GAY III

● Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to James Arthur Gay III, a pioneer black civic leader from Las Vegas. Through his tireless efforts, he was instrumental in the fight to desegregate Las Vegas. Jimmy Gay was one of the first black hotel executives in Las Vegas in the 1950s at a time when his longtime friends Sammy Davis Jr., Nat "King" Cole and others were not allowed to stay overnight in strip hotels.

Mr. Gay was one of the best known and respected local black leaders of his generation. Among his accomplishments are many "firsts". He was the first black to obtain a mortician's license in the state of Nevada, the first black to be appointed to the Nevada Athletic Commission, and the first black in the United States to be certified as a water safety instructor by the Red Cross. He also was a national record holder in the 100-yard dash and an alternate on the 1936 U.S. Olympic track team.

Born in Fordyce, Arkansas in 1916, Jim was the youngest of three chil-

dren. When he was just 3 years old, Jim was orphaned. Beginning his experience with work at age 7 as a house boy, Jim developed a strong commitment to work at an early age. He moved to Las Vegas in 1946 as a college-educated man having earned his degree from the University of Arkansas. Although he was educated and ambitious, getting a job in Las Vegas was virtually impossible at the time. He started out as a cook at Sills Drive-In, a popular restaurant in the area of Charleston and Las Vegas Boulevard working hard to prove himself. In the late 1940s, people became aware of Jimmy's many talents. Jim's first break in Las Vegas came when the city opened the Jefferson Recreation Center in West Las Vegas. He was hired as the Director and among other things also coached football, swimming and basketball. His break in business came when he was hired as the Sands hotel-casino Director of Communications which was one of the highest posts held by a black at that time. During this period, the Sands was one of the Las Vegas Strips finest.

In 1941, Jimmy married Hazel Gloster and together they raised a family of five children, 10 grand-children and 17 great-grandchildren. Always finding time for his community, he was an active member of the executive board of the NAACP. He also was active in local politics serving as a member of the Clark County Democratic Central Committee and on the executive board of Culinary Local 226.

Jimmy discovered the world of the hotel industry and opened opportunities for many. Over the years, Jimmy served as an executive at the Sands, Union Plaza, Fremont, Aladdin and Silverbird hotels. He earned the respect of many for his tireless efforts and his love for the city of Las Vegas.

Deservingly, the state of Nevada has honored Jimmy Gay by naming him a Distinguished Nevadan in 1988 and a few years before, the city of Las Vegas named a park after him. In 1985, the city of Las Vegas and the state of Nevada honored him with "Jimmy Gay Day." For his civic efforts, Jimmy was named Las Vegas Jaycees Man of the Year in 1952 and received a City of Hope commendation in 1959. On numerous occasions he was named NAACP Man of the year. His contributions have not only left a lasting impression on many, but also served as an inspiration to generations of young people growing up in Nevada. Over the years, Jimmy helped many deserving black students receive scholarships to his alma mater.

It was once written that "Some people walk through our life and leave after a few seconds. Others come in and stay there for a very long time leaving marks that will never be forgotten." Jimmy Gay is one of those whose legacy will remain for the countless Nevadans whose journey will be easier because of his pioneering efforts. Las